Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) A petition dated 19th Medam 1104 was received by the Chief Engineer in which the petitioners request for the construction of a *chira* in Alur river near Kanjira Kundu and for opening a canal along the fields in Alur Kizhakepadam as for as Arod for the benefit of their lands.

(b) The petition was forwarded by the Chief Engineer to the Assistant Engineer, Northern Division, whose report has been received by the Chief Engineer. It is pending the Chief Engineer's inspection and disposal.

(c) Please vide answer to (b).

(d) Yes, by the Chief Engineer.

(e) Petition dated 29th Kumbham 1104 from Mr. Choondupurakkal Konnan Unnichira was received on 16th March 1929 through Hon'ble Member Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan with his letter dated 1st Meenam 1104.

39. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Chief Engineer has received a petition dated 28th Kumbham 1104 from Mr. Choondupurakkal Govindan Unnichira and others in Alur village; and if so,

(b) what is the request contained therein;

(c) whether the request has been sanctioned by the Government; and if not,

(d) what action has been taken with reference to it so far;

(e) whether the request is with reference to irrigation facilities being provided?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) No.

(b), (c), (d) and (e). No answer is called for in view of answer to (a).

Village Menons in service.

40. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the total number of Village Menons in the State when the present Diwan Peishkar took charge;

(b) how many of them were 1. Caste-Hindus, 2. Non-caste Hindus, 3. Christians, 4. Muslims and 5. Jews;

(c) what steps have been taken by the present Diwan Peishkar to give fair representation to all classes of people given above with reference to this appointment?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(a) 208.

(b)

Caste-Hindus	167
Non-caste Hindus	16
Christians	23
Muslims	2
Jews	Nil.

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